

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RECIFE 00100 232120Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /140 W
-----092613 240558Z /15

R 231330Z MAY 78

FM AMCONSUL RECIFE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5878

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

UNCLAS RECIFE 0100

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TOCY, BR

SUBJ: OCEAN THERMAL ENERGY PROJECT

1. RETIRED U.S. NAVY CAPTAINS JACK EVANS, GEORGE STEVENS AND J.D. WARD TOGETHER WITH ENGINEER TITO L. VILLARREAL VISITED RECIFE MAY 18-24 TO GATHER PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FOR AN OCEAN THERMAL ENERGY CONVERSION (OTEC) PROJECT TO PRODUCE ANHYDROUS AMMONIA FROM OCEAN WATER. THEY SAID THEY ARE EMPLOYEES OF THE COMPUTER SCIENCES SERVICES CORPORATION OF MISSISSIPPI THAT HAS A CONTRACT WITH NOAA'S NATIONAL SPACE TECHNOLOGY LABORATORIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. THEIR ADDRESS IS OCEAN SYSTEMS ENGINEERING, NATIONAL SPACE TECHNOLOGY LABORATORIES, MISSISSIPPI 39529.

2. THE OTEC TEAM SAID THAT OTEC DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS WERE PLANNED OFF THE COAST OF MEXICO AND/OR RECIFE, BRAZIL. THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD CONTACTED THE BRAZILIAN NAVY HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE IN RIO WHICH EXPRESSED INTEREST IN COOPERATING WITH THEM ON THE PROJECT. THEY ARE GATHERING INFORMATION WITH THE TARGET OF HAVING A DATA GATHERING OTEC BUOY OR SHIP IN PLACE IN EIGHT MONTHS 250 MILES OFF SHORE RECIFE AND PRODUCTION OF ANHYDROUS
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AMMONIA BEGINNING IN 1982.

3. THE CONSULATE PROVIDED THE OTEC TEAM WITH BASIC INFORMATION AND ASSISTED IT IN CONTACTS WITH A SHIP SUPPLIER AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF PERNAMBUCO. AFTER A SECOND INFORMATION GATHERING VISIT THEY PLAN TO CONTRACT NEEDED SERVICES FOR A DATA GATHERING BUOY OR

ON-STATION SHIP THROUGH THE SHIP SUPPLIER OR THE UNIVERSITY.

4. THE OTEC TEAM IS OFF TO A GOOD START IN GETTING THIS PROJECT UNDER WAY WITH MINIMUM DELAY. THEY HAVE BEEN MADE AWARE THAT BRAZILIAN NAVY APPROVAL EVENTUALLY WILL BE NEEDED. THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A JOINT PROJECT WITH A BRAZILIAN INSTITUTION AND WOULD WELCOME THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT APPROVAL.

5. THIS PROJECT IN THE FIELD OF NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY APPEARS TO OFFER AN ATTRACTIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR A JOINT PROGRAM WITH THE GOB ENTAILING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER. PERHAPS CONVERSATIONS SHOULD BE INITIATED PROMPTLY AT THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL LOOKING TO EARLY AGREEMENT ON THIS PROJECT.
HOFFENBERG

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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